

October 2002

Hap Arnold Award presented to AFRL Commander

by Ranney Adams, Propulsion Directorate

LOS ANGELES — Maj. Gen. Paul D. Nielsen, Commander of the Air Force Research Laboratory, was presented the Hap Arnold Award for Excellence in Aeronautic Program Management by the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA) at the Los Angeles Convention Center earlier this month.

The award was presented by AIAA's past-president and retired Boeing Vice-President John Swiart during an awards luncheon that included most of the attendees of AIAA's Aircraft Technology, Integration, and Operations Forum.

Nielsen was honored for his "outstanding contributions to the restructuring of the Milstar satellite program, for an exemplary role as Director of Plans for NORAD, and for visionary leadership of the Air Force Research Laboratory."

Prior to the awards ceremony, Nielsen commented that he was "excited about the recognition for the lab and its military and civilian personnel. This award represents scientists and engineers pulling together. The Milstar program was a huge effort by the Air Force's Space and Missile Systems Center, OSD, Lincoln Lab, Hughes, TRW, and Lockheed. NORAD was special because of the spirit and value of working with all the services and the Canadians to protect our nation. At the Air Force Research Laboratory, I have the privilege of working with a great team of civilian and military people and their counterparts in industry and academia."

AFRL is a full spectrum laboratory dispersed across the United States that is responsible for planning and executing the Air Force's entire science and technology budget – all to keep it the best in the world.

The keynote speech at the awards luncheon was presented by



AFRL Commander Gen. Paul D. Nielsen recently received the AIAA Hap Arnold Award for Excellence. The award was presented by AIAA's past-President and retired Boeing Vice-President John Swiart. (Air Force photo)

Boeing's George K. Muellner, senior vice president for Air Force Systems – Integrated Defense Systems. The retired Air Force Lt. General and aerospace pioneer spoke about "Emergent Aerospace Concepts."

As the world begins its centennial celebration of manned powered flight, it enters its 2nd century of aviation as a bold new era with leaders like Maj. Gen. Nielsen. @